

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

PUBLISHED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

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THE MINISTER OF FINANCE.

Mr. T. F. Lansing will be a faithful and acceptable Minister of Finance. Moreover he will be loyal to his chief, any intimations to the contrary notwithstanding, made by the Opposition Journal. It is in Spanish-American, and not in North American politics, that a person accepts office in a cabinet, with intent to knife his chief. When President Lincoln, a Republican, appointed Mr. Stanton, a Democrat, to the office of Secretary of War, Mr. Stanton became sincerely loyal to his chief, and offended the Opposition by refusing to "knife him." Mr. Lansing will not begin his career by telling Mr. Dele that he is a traitor and coward. But he will administer the affairs of his office with judgment and intelligence, and that will be loyalty itself.

ADMIRAL DEWEY AS A CANDIDATE.

The sudden and almost romantic appearance of a lady who will shortly be Mrs. Admiral Dewey may bring about the unexpected in Presidential politics. The Admiral, so far, has plainly intimated that he is quite satisfied with his high commission, and declares himself unfitted to command the ship of state. He knows and can manage the crew of a ship of war. He is accustomed to giving orders, and if they are not obeyed, there is a file of marines at hand to seize the disobedient and slap them into the ship's "cage."

But as the captain of the ship of state, he must forget naval discipline, smile when the "boys" as independent sovereigns come into his presence, remind him that he is their servant and tell him, if he don't please them, that they will make it hot for him.

The crew of the ship of state is always divided. Nearly one-half of it, the starboard watch is Democratic. The other and the larboard watch is Republican. By the rules of the ship, they must obey certain orders, for the time being, but the rules permit them to indulge in the most insubordinate language and they are free to call the captain a coward and a traitor to his face.

But the Admiral may yield to pressure, as Gen. Grant unwillingly yielded. Domestic pressure has always played a strong, but quiet part in the politics of nations. Domestic pressure forces wise and able men to do foolish things. The desire of women to secure great social honors, is often so feverish and uncontrollable, that it overpowers husbands and relatives. The story of Gen. Jackson's Cabinet is an instance, and a scandalous one, of the weakness of men in this respect. Admiral Dewey, in his new relations, may become a candidate for the Presidency, and a candidate of the Democratic party.

The Republicans must renominate President McKinley. He is their able and intelligent leader, and has the confidence of the party. But the Democrats will seek to nominate an "available" man, that is, one, who in their opinion, will defeat President McKinley. They will nominate any available person for that purpose, just as they nominated Horace Greeley, a Republican, in order to beat the regular Republican nominee.

If Admiral Dewey can be convinced that the people will elect him, on his war record, the domestic pressure may cause him to accept the Democratic nomination. The Republican administration declares that he is not only a great fighting sailor, but a great statesman. At the official reception recently given to him in Washington, Secretary Long, speaking for the Government, said, "You have proved yourself to be a great representative citizen of the United States as well as now its great naval hero."

The Mugwumps do not endorse this effusive eulogium. They do not believe that he has yet proved himself to be "a great representative citizen," however much they admire his capacity as a naval commander. The conservative Republicans do not concede that he is qualified to take President McKinley's place, even if Mr. McKinley declined a renomination. The sober second thought of the people will take the same view.

The Democrats, without any "available" candidate who has done active service in their own ranks, may seek to nominate the Admiral, in their patriotic desire to save the country from the disaster and ruin, which they firmly believe follows Republican rule. The Admiral who has not the least experience with political machinery, may be persuaded that he can "rush it," and go into office on a tidal wave of enthusiasm and flags. The feelings, the sentiments of a woman may be, in the end, the influence which will determine the course.

FOOD AND THE PRICE OF WAGES.

In these prosperous, but portentious days of Hawaii, the fact that the price of food must to a large extent regulate the price of wages seems to go unnoticed. The people of these islands every year are becoming more dependent upon imported foods, both from the East and the West. We import meats, vegetables, fruit, groceries, flour, grain and hay. On the whole, it is safe to say, that we import more food for man and beast, in proportion to the people, than Great Britain does. In fact, we are now entirely dependent. Great Britain is also dependent largely on imported food, and her prosperity is undoubted.

Prince Kropotkin, in that remarkable book, "Fields, Factories and Workshops," to which attention was called the other day, discusses this dependent condition of Great Britain and declares that in the end it will place the wage earners of that country at a disadvantage. He shows by reliable data that the British may obtain from their own soil the food needed by the entire population, but that they unwisely rely upon importations. As industrial expansion continues, and each nation, through a distribution of industrial machinery and the use of educated labor, supplies it own needs of manufactured goods, the competition for foreign trade will increase and the profits be reduced. The Americans have largely reduced the iron trade of England, and, in due time, under the superintendence of American brains, the Chinese, with their vast resources of iron and coal, will reduce the American trade in iron. Other products will be subject to the same conditions. Kropotkin claims that imported foods must cost, by reason of freight, handling and commissions, more than the foods produced at home. Therefore, in the coming competition, the community which supplies its own foods will be able to fix the rate of wages below the rate prevailing in communities which import their foods.

This factor in the cost of manufactured goods has only of late become important, because it is only of late that the industrial expansion has taken place.

If his proposition is correct, the economic condition of Hawaii is not satisfactory. The cost of food is high. The price of meat is rising. With scientific cultivation one bullock to the acre may be raised. The ratio here is not known, but it is at least ten acres to the bullock. While hay and grain may be cheaply raised on the uplands, they are hardly produced at all. Fish is simply a luxury, which is beyond the reach of those with moderate wages or incomes.

The moment Federal laws are applied, which restrict Asiatic immigration, the resident laborers, discovering their power to control the labor market, will agitate for the increase of wages in order to "live," if for no other reason.

The day has passed when we can say to these laborers, "If you will not accept the wages we offer you, you can leave." Labor will soon be King here, as it is on the Mainland. In demanding and fixing the rate of wages, the cost of living will be an important factor. Discontented laborers are a standing menace to law and order.

As the time gradually approaches, when the United States will produce a surplus of sugar, and be forced into the markets of the world in competition with the sugars of the West Indies, Russia, Germany, Africa and Australia, it is not the scientific production of sugar alone which will settle the cost of producing it here, but the cost of feeding and satisfying the laborers. The enormous growth of the manufacturing interests of Philadelphia, is largely due to the cheapness of land and homes of the working classes as well as the low price of food. During the many commercial depressions which have caused so much distress throughout the land, Philadelphia has suffered the least, because of her opportunities to furnish her working people with food and houses at the lowest rates.

It is not the duty of the government to consider these questions, unless the community impose it upon them. It is the high and, indeed, solemn duty of the intelligent men to take up these perplexing questions that confront us, and deal with them earnestly, seriously and effectively.

THE GREASED POLE.

The persistent attacks of the organ of the Opposition upon Gen. Hartwell, recall the story of Capt. Whistler's monkey. The captain had planted a long pole in his garden and upon the top of it, placed a cage containing an eagle. At the foot of the pole he chained a Brazilian monkey. The monkey's delight was in climbing the pole to the eagle's cage, and in pulling out his feathers. To check this mischievous conduct, the captain kept the pole well greased, so that when the monkey struggled to reach the top of it in the conscientious discharge of his mission on earth to pull out the eagle's feathers, he invariably slipped back to the ground, with much screaming and vituperative language in the Simian

language. He was never, however, discouraged, and it became his daily occupation and finally his pleasure to climb the greased pole and slip back to the ground with a shriek. While the eagle was rather indifferent Capt. Whistler enjoyed it, and remarked to a friend, "That blamed monkey is just as happy when he slips down the pole, as when he climbs it. He's pretty high knocked off his tail, but he's a doin' his duty."

The Dole Government has placed Gen. Hartwell on the top of an unofficial pole. It is well greased. The Opposition organ, prompted by a sense of duty, faithfully climbs up the pole every day in order to pull the General down. As its ascent is always followed by a rapid descent, with empty hands, but with an inspiring sense of duty gratified, the case stands, that the General, like the eagle, is indifferent, the Dole Government, like the captain, watches the ascent and descent with pleasure, and the organ, like the captain's ape, is also happy. Is the morning star of peace rising over this community?

As for Gen. Hartwell, as he holds his commission, signed by Abraham Lincoln, and approved by the American Senate, as a reward for services on the battle fields, and is, with President McKinley a member of the Loyal Legion, and is, moreover, the only old resident in these islands who has the honor of holding high rank in the great Civil war—he may well resurrect Gen. Butler's memorable words: "Shoo fly don't bother me."

In the play of "The Lady of Lyons," the infirm Cardinal discovers the conspirators in the act of abducting his beautiful ward. Raising himself to his utmost height, he draws in the name of ——— with his long finger an imaginary circle around her prostrate form, he shouts to the conspirators, "Place but one step within that sacred spot, and at thy head, yea, though it wore a crown, I launch the curse of Rome." America, the goddess of Liberty cares for her own. Around every old veteran she draws the sacred circle of her protection and devotion, and against those men of the Opposition, who put their dirty feet within that sacred circle, she launches the curse of her anger.

However—perhaps the burning of a little buhac would have done as well.

"HAWAIIAN AMERICA"

Harper & Brothers have recently issued "Hawaiian America" the author of which is Caspar Whitney. The book is admirably illustrated.

On reading it, one is surprised at the amount of accurate information, and the correct estimate of men and things, which it contains. Mr. Whitney is a sponge in his capacity for absorbing data of all kinds. His visit in these islands was short, but he has obtained and recorded in this book, a greater variety of information than has appeared in any of the books which have been recently published on the subject of Hawaii. The material is well digested. There are some inaccurate statements.

Mr. Whitney is not correct in stating that Kamehameha II. gave land to the early missionaries, with the result that the children of these missionaries, instead of being sent back to America remained on the islands to be educated. The King gave little, if any, lands to the missionaries. The few small parcels, of no market value in the early days, which the missionaries did obtain were usually purchased for cow pastures and gardens. Sixty years afterwards some of these parcels became valuable for cane cultivation. Many of the children of the missionaries were sent to the American colleges, and much personal sacrifice was made in doing so. The American Board of Missions established, at its own expense, the Punahou school, now Oahu college, to meet the earnest demand of the missionaries for the adequate education of their children. It is surprising, however, that the errors in the book are so few.

Mr. Whitney's style is graphic and taking, as we all know. He does not attempt to treat Hawaiian history as Prof. Blackburn has done it, in the "Making of Hawaii." That treatise is unique, and could only be written by a specialist in political philosophy. Mr. Whitney does not discuss the true inwardness of Hawaiian evolution, the curious outcome of Puritanism engraving New England law upon Polynesian stock. But he describes accurately and justly the external facts and manifestations of the evolution, and he furnishes something far above the slobering stuff about the islands that newspaper correspondents have unfortunately put into book form.

Mr. Whitney speaks with discrimination and justice of the half-white woman. He detects the influence of the missionaries in steadily urging the marriage between whites and natives in order to prevent illicit relations. To this enlightened policy, he attributes the striking difference between these islands and other lands where the stronger and the weaker races have come together, and the illicit relation has been nearly universal. While the story of the relations of the whites to

the natives in the Pacific is a sad one it will remain an accepted fact in Hawaiian history, that the missionaries urged the King and chiefs to create and preserve the marriage relation, and to this attitude of the missionaries is due the general legitimacy of the half-caste population. Mr. Whitney takes a hopeful view of the destiny of the half-castes here, and he justly believes that they will in time, become a strong social force. Fortunately, there have been no race distinctions made in Hawaii. Although the later immigrants from America are disposed to refuse them the fullest social recognition, the fixed habit of the community allows no discriminations other than are made between different classes of the white race.

Mr. Whitney justifies the penal contract labor system, but he does not discuss the repulsive feature in it, that it gives an ignorant luna altogether too much power over the laborer, and develops the worst features of the power of the strong over the weak. Mr. Whitney says of the Japanese laborer, he is a natural "walking delegate," and favors the modern labor unions, and being now converted to that idea "pursued it with the same hysteria that has characterized his adoption of Western ideas generally in Japan." He says, "The average Japanese day worker could probably give agitator Debs pointers on the systematic organization of labor."

He further says, "Speaking generally, the care of plantation laborers has been most considerate, and in some instances that came under my notice, really paternal."

He also reviews the industrial prospects, and with remarkable insight, detects the existing hindrances to the development of Hawaii. He sees in the large individual holdings of lands, in the contract labor system, and in the exorbitant transportation rates, the serious drawbacks to the growth of a civilized community. He cites the current statement that, "All the land on the island of Kauai is either owned outright or held on long leases by six men," and the fact that no one can now purchase any land even for a home on that island.

"Hawaiian America" is one of the books which may be depended upon, without reservation for its accurate information. Aside from this, its literary finish is very attractive.

TERRITORIAL RELATIONS.

The Advertiser, before the act of annexation, informed its readers that the act, important as it was, would not be an unmixing blessing. It would involve the repetition of a truth apparent to any one who observes the outgrowth of democracy as a ruling agency. The condition of statehood is that of sovereignty, shorn of a few of its powers. The condition of a territory is that of entire loss of sovereignty, and dependency upon Congress, which is itself governed by the moods and traditions of the people. Every territory would be greatly benefited by special legislation suited to the needs and character of its own people. But Congress, always fresh from the people, who are not students in the art of legislation, has not graduated from the best schools of political science or of political economy, although there are many members of Congress who are wise statesmen. The British alone, after a hundred years of instruction, make wise special legislation, suited to the needs of each colony.

Hawaii, it is probable, will stand as the first experiment in special legislation, in American history, unless the other newly acquired territories take the lead. It cannot be expected that the handful of Americans who live here will receive any special favors from Congress. The Federal Government is now in possession of these islands, and owns the public lands. It will abide by the terms of the Newlands' Resolution, although it will follow its own interpretation of those terms. But the general policy of the nation will not be changed in the least in order to specially benefit this or any other territory. Hitherto, Hawaii, an independent state has been governed, as all other nations are governed, by a policy of self interest. The act of annexation ignores the self interest of Hawaii, even if it is a wise and wholesome self interest, and substitutes the national self interest which in its enforcement and play may injure the material interests of individual communities.

When, in the course of years, the sugar interest declines, and the prosperity of our people will largely depend upon other industries, the great commercial advantages of Hawaii, as the central "free port" of the Pacific will be manifest. It would be for the interest of Hawaii alone to maintain a "free port" taking in the entire commerce of the Pacific. But the distinct policy of the United States, if maintained, will be to keep Hawaii within the coasting trade limitations, exclude foreign ships from this port, and confine the profits of the mercantile marine to American vessels alone. In building up American commerce, the apparent sacrifice of a territory counts for little. If the hardship of this apparent

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sacrifice is urged, it will be justly said that in the larger view of American destiny individuals are insignificant units. It would be in the future greatly to the profit of the individual that a "free port" existed here, but it is of much more consequence that the nation as a whole secure profits by "protecting" the American mercantile marine.

In the substitution of the broad national policy of self-interest for the local Hawaiian policy of self-interest, we may as individuals find cause for complaint, but the wise man will accept the situation, because he must, and good-naturedly endure some of the ills which are incident to our becoming a part of the greater America.

WATER THE SOLDIERS

It is a pity that our interest in the soldiers in transitu has fallen so low, that we cannot devise a way to give them comfortable and even necessary baths, during the few hours in which they remain in port. One of these young enlisted men, in a recent interview, said that on the trip across the continent and on the voyage from San Francisco, the men suffered from the dust, heat, and crowded conditions of the cars and vessels. The sleeping bunks on the lower decks were close together, and at times the heat was intolerable; that many of the men on landing here desired a fresh bath, and cool drinking water, but that neither were to be had without begging for it.

The cost of erecting fifty bathing houses near the coal sheds, and the cost of distributing pipes through them, so that there would be an abundance of water for shower baths, is small. If this arrangement was made, fifty men could bathe together at a time, and a regiment would be washed up in two hours. Both sea and fresh water bathing could be provided for at Lakaako. The late Pope, Pius IX., was a humorist. During the sessions of the great Ecumenical Council in Rome, a lot of the Oriental bishops, noted for their uncleanly persons, asked for the Holy Father's blessing. They knelt before him, and the Pope raised his hands and said, (in a whisper), "Very dirty as ye all are, (in a loud voice) I give ye my blessing." If Honolulu will reserve her blessings, but give the soldiers water, externally and internally, Heaven will not feel insulted. Even the Flag wavers, and those who blow the confusing notes of the "un-American" blast should descend from their perches and "wave" and "blast" for bathing arrangements. The saloons have profited by this want of consideration.

The Great Prize Fight.

All the "sports" of the city were keen last evening when the transport Conemaugh arrived to learn the outcome of the ring battle between Jeffries, the California blacksmith, and Sharkey, "pride of the navy." The Conemaugh sailed from San Francisco on the morning of the 4th inst., about 7 o'clock. The fight was scheduled to come off in New York City the evening before.

There was a big crowd at the waterfront here for the news, but the result could not be given. On the afternoon of the 3d the Conemaugh was anchored off Presidio and had no communication with shore afterwards. They were too far from the city to observe the Examiner signals and could get no word from a tug which passed them the morning of the 4th.

At first it was thought that some of the men on the Conemaugh knew the result of the battle and wanted to do some betting with the Honolulu fans, but this surmise was dropped on the word of several reliable men.

Jeffries is the favorite at 10 to 6. Both men are in perfect condition and supremely confident.

Rowing Association.

A meeting of the Hawaiian Rowing Association was held last night for the purpose of renewing the inter-club compact which expired this year and to consider the question of purchasing new shells.

The secretary was instructed to interview the clubs in the city and report results to the Association. It is expected that the order will this time be placed with English builders. The present agreement for uniformity in boats will continue in force.

Boston Lyric Co. in the Pirates and Olivette.

Melody—High Coss Musk—Good Acting. Travellers This Week—School Attendants to Hear the Artists.

Two tremendous houses greeted the matinee and night performances of the justly famous Boston Lyric Opera Company on Saturday. At the matinee performance Gilbert and Sullivan's delightful opera, "The Pirates of Penzance" was given, Miss Nellie Andrews appearing as "Mabel." She sustained the good impression she made in "Martha." Mr. A. L. Parnley appeared as "Frederick" and again made a distinct success. Lovette Rockwell was the "Pirate Chief," John Henderson the "Major General," and George Kunkle the "Sergeant of Police." Miss Leicester made a decided impression with her superb voice. The chorus was, as it always is, simply perfect.

At night "Olivette" was presented, with Miss Josephine Stanton appearing in the title role and Miss Nellie Andrews as the "Countess." These ladies were at their best and both made great individual successes. Henry Hallam was excellent, as was also Lovette Rockwell as the "Duke." Miss Daisy Howard was full of life and chic as "Velotine," and looked as pretty as her given name. Miss Grace Bell was also charming as "Moustique." The comedy work was in the hands of those two princes of funmakers, Henderson and Kunkle, and they kept the audience in a constant roar of laughter. Henderson being particularly happy and getting off many local hits which brought down the house. The chorus showed great work again. The costuming was beautiful in both operas.

The Department of Public Instruction has begun to recognize the engagement of the famous Boston Lyric Opera Company as a most important factor for educational purposes. It is a chance to study and learn the art of singing correctly that has never before been offered to the students of this city. It is becoming accepted that a knowledge of the technique of singing is just as necessary as the study of the English language. In this age of enlightenment music goes hand in hand with progressive civilization. Superbly rendered music, whether vocal or instrumental, is a solace, a boon, a joy, that cannot be too highly esteemed. The instilling then of the principles of harmony and melody in the younger mind will naturally lead to a richer and grander development as the student grows older. The coming age will be one of music.

Miss Rose C. Davidson, School Agent for Honolulu, and J. H. Gibson, normal instructor, representing E. A. Mott-Smith, Minister of Instruction, called upon Colonel W. A. Thompson Saturday afternoon and stated that a movement was on foot in the Instructional Department to give the "school children" an opportunity to witness the performance of the Lyrics. The newspapers of the city had been suggesting the appropriateness of such a course, and it was to be taken advantage of. Colonel Thompson, in view of the educational importance of the affair, offered arrangements that were most satisfactory, and the dance for the school children will be given as "special Friday matinee" that being the afternoon on which the performance will be given.

This is a practice that is being followed very extensively in the States during opera seasons. Students of all classes attend special matinee performances given for their special musical education and the professors and instructors of all the different conservatories are in perfect accord with this form of study and encourage it most heartily.

The first "school matinee" will take place Friday, November 17, and the production will be that useful and very funny comic opera, "Told Pasha." It will be a sight well worth witnessing to see the throng of little people enjoying their first appearance at the opera. It is hoped that the good results which will be obtained will be an incentive for the continuance of the "special matinees" during the future opera season.

President F. A. Hosmer, of Oahu College, has decided that the Punahou students should see, as a body, at least one of the grand operas, and has chosen "Faust," which the Lyrics are already rehearsing.

Circuit Court.

Elona Kekoowai yesterday filed a petition for the appointment of Cecil Brown as guardian of his son Daniel Kekoowai, a minor.

Freeth versus Freeth action in divorce is continued till February term. Judge Perry was engaged all of yesterday in the case of Kane, charged with robbery.

BIDDING ON CRUISERS.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—Hids were today opened at the Navy Department for the construction of six sheathed and coppered cruisers authorized by the last naval appropriation bill. These vessels will be of about 3,200 tons displacement, a little larger than the Raleigh and Cincinnati class. The speed is to be not less than 16½ knots. The new ships will have twin screws and a battery composed of ten 5-inch guns, eight 6-pounders, two 1-pounders and four machine guns. The limit of cost fixed by Congress, exclusive of armament, is \$1,141,800 each, and it is provided that not more than two of these vessels shall be built in one yard.

Moran Bros. & Co. of Seattle, Wash., bid \$1,322,000 for one vessel on the Department's plans, and the Union Iron Works of San Francisco \$1,641,900 for one vessel on the Department's plans. Neither bid was the lowest of those offered.